

REMARKS

No new matter has been added in this amendment.

Claims 1-28 and 39-48 are pending in the instant application.

Claims 1-28 and 39-44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, written description requirement. Applicants point out that embodiments described in Figures 1d and 14 are interrelated. The structural limitations of the curved shank 20 and the position of the weight center 310 are the same in both Figures 1d and 14, and similarly, Figure 28. Specifically, as supported in the specification at page 11, lines 1-14, the curved shank 20 has the curved centerline 350 that intersects the center point 340, and the weight center 310 is disposed forward of the curved centerline 350. Instant claims 1 and 15 are therefore fully supported as described below.

As discussed and agreed upon during the telephonic interview of February 14, 2005, the curved shank 20 always defines a curved centerline 350, as shown in Figure 1d, and supported in the specification at page 11, lines 8-10. Also, as discussed and agreed upon during the interview, the handle 30 has a bottom edge 330 that defines a center point 340, as shown in Figure 1d, and supported in the specification at page 11, lines 7-8. Also, the weight center 310, and the position of the weight center 310 disposed forward of the curved centerline 350, as shown in Figure 1d, are supported in the specification at page 11, lines 3 and 12-14. The amendment to the specification, suggested by the Examiner, at page 11, line 1, only clarifies the interrelationship of the embodiments as shown in Figures 1d, 14, and 28, without adding anything.

Figures 14 and 28 include a second point located along a centerline of the handle. As one example, in Figures 14 and 28, a second point 520 is located along the longitudinal center line of the handle 30 (specification, page 19, line 1, and page 35, line 13). In independent claims 1 and 15, the second point, with the center point 340 discussed above, define a straight line that intersects the head. The position of this straight line establishes the novel weight forward design, as supported by detailed experimental evidence in the specification, p. 36, line 10 through p. 37, line 3, and Table 1.

Therefore, by interrelating the embodiments described in Figures 1d and 14 (and 28), Applicants have disclosed an embodiment that has a second point along a centerline of the handle that, with the center point on the bottom edge of the handle, forms a straight line that intersects the head, and thus the rejection should be removed.

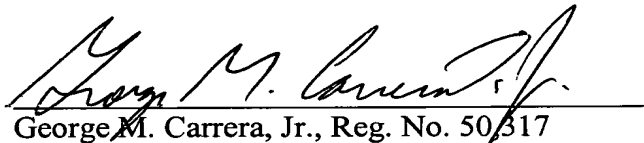
In re Appln. of Youngren et al.
Application No. 10/658,693
Response to Office Action of December 16, 2004

Claims 45-48 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over claims 1-3 and 6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,647,829 ("the '829 Patent"). The '829 Patent is commonly owned with the present application. A terminal disclaimer has been filed with the present response, and accordingly, the rejection should be removed.

Finally, claims 46-48 have been amended due to a clerical error, since they were inadvertently made to depend from claims 33-35, respectively. It is apparent that previously added claims 46-48 had incorrect dependencies, since claims 33-35 have been canceled. Claims 46-48, as amended, now depend properly from claims 45-47, respectively.

This application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

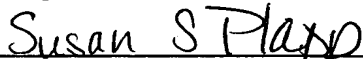
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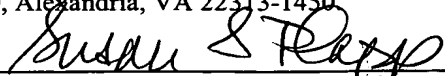
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Date of Deposit

I hereby certify this RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 16, 2004, including any documents or materials referred to thereon as enclosures or attachments, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



(Typed or printed name of person making deposit)



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